

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3627

ANSWERED ON:17.04.2008

HELICOPTER SERVICE TO DIFFICULT TERRAIN AREAS

Bhakta Shri Manoranjan

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to introduce helicopter services to the inaccessible and difficult terrain areas in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands to ferry the local people;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when these are likely to be introduced?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) to (c):- Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. (PHHL) has provided one Dauphin SA 365 N helicopter on long term lease basis to the Andaman & Nicobar Administration w.e.f.25th March, 2003 and it is being utilized for inter-island services connecting Car Nicobar, Campbell Bay and Hut Bay etc.for VIP transportation and medical evacuation etc.The Administration has been operating regular passenger flights by helicopter.The average utilization of the helicopter has been 100 hrs. per month.Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. (PHHL) has also provided one additional Dauphin helicopter to A & N Administration with effect from 27 Jan 05 to meet additional requirements of the Administration.In addition to the above arrangement,a proposal for acquisition of 2 Nos. of medium helicopters and 2 Nos. fixed wing aircraft by Andaman and Nicobar Islands is under consideration of the Government.